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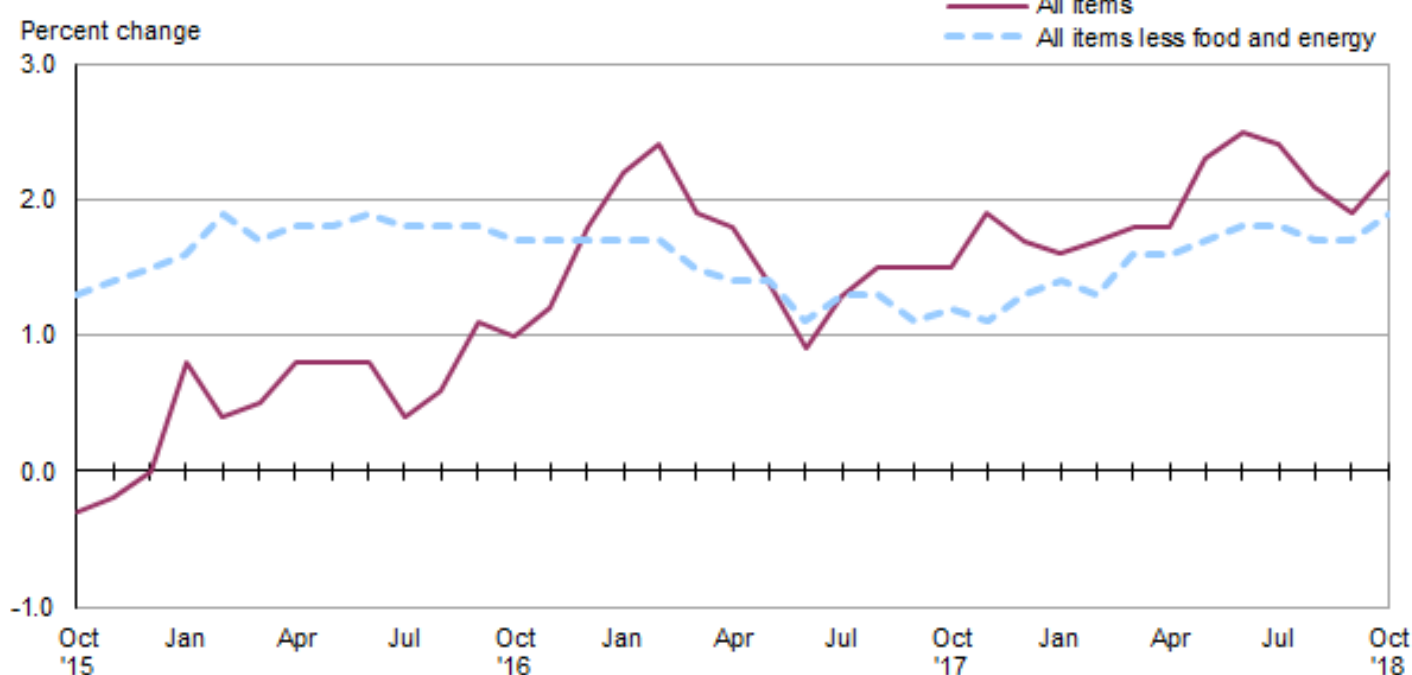
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Consumer Price Index, Midwest Region – October 2018

Prices in the Midwest up 0.1 percent in October and 2.2 percent higher over the year

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) in the Midwest inched up 0.1 percent for the second month in a row after recording no change in the two prior months, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Movements within the index were mixed in October with lower prices for energy (-2.4 percent) offset by higher prices for items such as shelter (0.6 percent) and apparel (2.2 percent). Food prices were unchanged for the month. The index for all items less food and energy was up 0.3 percent in October. (Data in this report are not seasonally adjusted. Accordingly, month-to-month changes may reflect the impact of seasonal influences.)

Chart 1. Over-the-year percent change in CPI-U, Midwest region, October 2015–October 2018



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The CPI-U for the Midwest advanced 2.2 percent from October 2017 to October 2018. (See [chart 1](#) and [table A](#).) The energy index, which includes motor fuel and household fuels, rose 8.1 percent and food prices increased 0.5 percent. Excluding food and energy, the CPI-U was up 1.9 percent over the year. (See [table 1](#).)

Food

Food prices in the Midwest were unchanged in October due to offsetting movements within the index. Prices for food away from home were up 0.3 percent for the second month in a row. Costs for food at home turned down 0.1 percent following a rise of 0.2 percent in the prior month.

From October 2017 to October 2018, the index for food rose 0.5 percent. Prices for food away from home were up 2.2 percent and were responsible for the increase. Prices for food at home were 0.7 percent lower over the year.

Energy

The energy index declined 2.4 percent in October after registering no change in the prior month. A 4.8-percent decline in prices for electricity led the index. Electricity prices were down 1.1 percent in the prior month. Gasoline prices also contributed to the decline, turning down 2.0 percent in October after rising 0.5 percent in September. Utility piped gas service costs were up 0.5 percent in October and rose 0.3 percent in the prior month.

Energy costs advanced 8.1 percent from October 2017 to October 2018 due largely to an increase of 14.8 percent in prices for gasoline. Costs for electricity also rose over the year, up 1.2 percent, but utility (piped) gas service prices were 1.4 percent lower than in October 2017.

All items less food and energy

The index for all items less food and energy for the Midwest was up 0.3 percent in October. Among the expenditure categories registering higher costs were shelter (0.6 percent), apparel (2.2 percent) and used cars and trucks (1.2 percent), while prices for recreation (-0.5 percent) were among those that declined over the month.

The index for all items less food and energy was up 1.9 percent from October 2017 to October 2018. Higher costs for shelter (3.5 percent) led the over-the-year increase.

The Midwest Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) stood at 235.680 in October 2018. A typical market basket of goods and services that cost \$100.00 in the 1982-84 base period cost \$235.68 in October 2018.

CPI-W

In October, the Midwest Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) was 230.186. The CPI-W inched up 0.1 percent in October and rose 2.5 percent over the year.

Table A. Midwest region CPI-U 1-month and 12-month percent changes, all items index, not seasonally adjusted

Month	2014		2015		2016		2017		2018	
	1-month	12-month	1-month	12-month	1-month	12-month	1-month	12-month	1-month	12-month
January.....	0.5	1.4	-0.6	-0.3	0.3	0.8	0.7	2.2	0.6	1.6
February.....	0.6	0.9	0.3	-0.5	0.0	0.4	0.2	2.4	0.2	1.7
March.....	0.9	1.5	0.6	-0.9	0.6	0.5	0.1	1.9	0.2	1.8
April.....	0.3	1.9	0.1	-1.1	0.4	0.8	0.4	1.8	0.4	1.8
May.....	0.2	1.6	0.4	-0.8	0.4	0.8	0.0	1.4	0.5	2.3
June.....	0.5	1.7	0.5	-0.7	0.6	0.8	0.0	0.9	0.2	2.5
July.....	-0.3	1.8	0.0	-0.5	-0.5	0.4	0.0	1.3	0.0	2.4
August.....	-0.2	1.6	0.0	-0.3	0.1	0.6	0.3	1.5	0.0	2.1

Table A. Midwest region CPI-U 1-month and 12-month percent changes, all items index, not seasonally adjusted - Continued

Month	2014		2015		2016		2017		2018	
	1-month	12-month	1-month	12-month	1-month	12-month	1-month	12-month	1-month	12-month
September	0.1	1.6	-0.3	-0.8	0.2	1.1	0.3	1.5	0.1	1.9
October	-0.5	1.6	-0.1	-0.3	-0.1	1.0	-0.2	1.5	0.1	2.2
November	-0.6	1.2	-0.5	-0.2	-0.3	1.2	0.2	1.9		
December	-0.7	0.7	-0.6	0.0	0.1	1.8	-0.2	1.7		

The November 2018 Consumer Price Index for the Midwest region is scheduled to be released on Wednesday, December 12, 2018.

Technical Note

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) is a measure of the average change in prices over time in a fixed market basket of goods and services. The Bureau of Labor Statistics publishes CPIs for two population groups: (1) a CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) which covers approximately 93 percent of the total population and (2) a CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) which covers approximately 29 percent of the total population. The CPI-U includes, in addition to wage earners and clerical workers, groups such as professional, managerial, and technical workers, the self-employed, short-term workers, the unemployed, and retirees and others not in the labor force.

The CPI is based on prices of food, clothing, shelter, and fuels, transportation fares, charges for doctors' and dentists' services, drugs, and the other goods and services that people buy for day-to-day living. Each month, prices are collected in 75 urban areas across the country from about 5,000 housing units and approximately 22,000 retail establishments—department stores, supermarkets, hospitals, filling stations, and other types of stores and service establishments. All taxes directly associated with the purchase and use of items are included in the index.

The index measures price changes from a designated reference date (1982-84) that equals 100.0. An increase of 16.5 percent, for example, is shown as 116.5. This change can also be expressed in dollars as follows: the price of a base period "market basket" of goods and services in the CPI has risen from \$10 in 1982-84 to \$11.65. For further details see the CPI home page on the Internet at www.bls.gov/cpi and the BLS Handbook of Methods, Chapter 17, The Consumer Price Index, available on the Internet at www.bls.gov/opub/hom/pdf/homch17.pdf.

In calculating the index, price changes for the various items in each location are averaged together with weights that represent their importance in the spending of the appropriate population group. Local data are then combined to obtain a U.S. city average. Because the sample size of a local area is smaller, the local area index is subject to substantially more sampling and other measurement error than the national index. In addition, local indexes are not adjusted for seasonal influences. As a result, local area indexes show greater volatility than the national index, although their long-term trends are quite similar. **NOTE: Area indexes do not measure differences in the level of prices between cities; they only measure the average change in prices for each area since the base period.**

The Midwest region is comprised of Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, and Wisconsin.

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Table 1. Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): Indexes and percent changes for selected periods, Midwest Region, (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted) (not seasonally adjusted)

Expenditure category	Indexes			Percent change from		
	Aug. 2018	Sep. 2018	Oct. 2018	Oct. 2017	Aug. 2018	Sep. 2018
All items	235.276	235.524	235.680	2.2	0.2	0.1
All items (December 1977 = 100).....	382.808	383.210	383.464			
Food and beverages	243.656	244.409	244.608	0.6	0.4	0.1
Food	243.119	243.762	243.882	0.5	0.3	0.0
Food at home	225.866	226.373	226.052	-0.7	0.1	-0.1
Cereals and bakery products	258.844	258.904	261.222		0.9	0.9
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs.....	248.286	245.319	244.750		-1.4	-0.2
Dairy and related products	194.780	195.649	193.957		-0.4	-0.9
Fruits and vegetables	267.998	267.502	269.882		0.7	0.9
Nonalcoholic beverages and beverage materials.....	158.340	162.289	161.784		2.2	-0.3
Other food at home	196.944	198.371	196.590		-0.2	-0.9
Food away from home.....	271.995	272.852	273.635	2.2	0.6	0.3
Alcoholic beverages	248.942	251.179	252.466	1.7	1.4	0.5
Housing	228.447	228.659	228.903	2.9	0.2	0.1
Shelter	271.663	272.185	273.686	3.5	0.7	0.6
Rent of primary residence(1).....	271.325	271.865	273.290	3.3	0.7	0.5
Owners' equivalent rent of residences(1) (2).....	276.423	276.819	278.413	3.6	0.7	0.6
Owners' equivalent rent of primary residence(1)(2).....	276.390	276.786	278.382	3.6	0.7	0.6
Fuels and utilities.....	227.656	226.781	221.705	1.4	-2.6	-2.2
Household energy	186.123	185.179	179.599	0.7	-3.5	-3.0
Energy services(1)	193.216	191.940	185.778	0.3	-3.8	-3.2
Electricity(1).....	213.935	211.597	201.354	1.2	-5.9	-4.8
Utility (piped) gas service(1).....	147.577	148.086	148.866	-1.4	0.9	0.5
Household furnishings and operations	114.361	114.309	113.991	0.7	-0.3	-0.3
Apparel	113.081	118.790	121.445	-0.6	7.4	2.2
Transportation	207.200	205.689	205.094	5.0	-1.0	-0.3
Private transportation	202.643	201.242	200.572	5.4	-1.0	-0.3
New and used motor vehicles(3).....	98.050	95.946	95.721	1.2	-2.4	-0.2
New vehicles	137.207	135.734	135.636	0.2	-1.1	-0.1
New cars and trucks(3)(4).....	96.974	95.960	95.896	0.2	-1.1	-0.1
New cars(4).....	133.743	132.796	132.721	0.8	-0.8	-0.1
Used cars and trucks.....	140.213	133.797	135.414	0.1	-3.4	1.2
Motor fuel	254.719	256.001	251.281	14.9	-1.3	-1.8
Gasoline (all types).....	253.288	254.525	249.530	14.8	-1.5	-2.0
Gasoline, unleaded regular(4).....	246.845	248.063	243.090	15.0	-1.5	-2.0
Gasoline, unleaded midgrade(4)(5).....	292.110	292.947	287.074	13.8	-1.7	-2.0
Gasoline, unleaded premium(4).....	275.281	276.808	272.486	12.9	-1.0	-1.6
Motor vehicle insurance(6).....	728.073	731.895	742.727		2.0	1.5
Medical care	484.957	485.951	486.365	1.6	0.3	0.1
Medical care commodities.....	393.777	394.593	395.429	2.3	0.4	0.2
Medical care services.....	515.481	516.535	516.805	1.4	0.3	0.1
Professional services	417.894	418.012	416.133	0.1	-0.4	-0.4
Recreation(3).....	120.786	120.600	120.033	-2.0	-0.6	-0.5
Education and communication(3).....	138.398	138.124	138.305	0.6	-0.1	0.1
Tuition, other school fees, and child care(6) ..	1,193.112	1,190.313	1,197.033		0.3	0.6

Note: See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): Indexes and percent changes for selected periods, Midwest Region, (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted) (not seasonally adjusted) - Continued

Expenditure category	Indexes			Percent change from		
	Aug. 2018	Sep. 2018	Oct. 2018	Oct. 2017	Aug. 2018	Sep. 2018
Other goods and services	426.414	426.977	427.530	2.2	0.3	0.1
Commodity and service group						
Commodities	179.912	180.149	180.185	1.5	0.2	0.0
Commodities less food and beverages	148.783	148.818	148.792	2.1	0.0	0.0
Nondurables less food and beverages.....	198.715	200.973	201.043	4.1	1.2	0.0
Durables	101.774	100.267	100.177	-0.5	-1.6	-0.1
Services.....	292.350	292.607	292.889	2.6	0.2	0.1
Special aggregate indexes						
All items less shelter.....	224.512	224.666	224.358	1.6	-0.1	-0.1
All items less medical care	223.458	223.670	223.814	2.2	0.2	0.1
Commodities less food	151.937	152.027	152.034	2.1	0.1	0.0
Nondurables	221.094	222.664	222.795	2.3	0.8	0.1
Nondurables less food.....	201.336	203.591	203.730	4.0	1.2	0.1
Services less rent of shelter(2).....	323.686	323.653	322.559	1.7	-0.3	-0.3
Services less medical care services.....	275.710	275.906	276.189	2.8	0.2	0.1
Energy	217.425	217.523	212.364	8.1	-2.3	-2.4
All items less energy	239.911	240.176	240.875	1.7	0.4	0.3
All items less food and energy	240.048	240.248	241.052	1.9	0.4	0.3

Footnotes

(1) This index series was calculated using a Laspeyres estimator. All other item stratum index series were calculated using a geometric means estimator.

(2) Indexes on a December 1982=100 base.

(3) Indexes on a December 1997=100 base.

(4) Special index based on a substantially smaller sample.

(5) Indexes on a December 1993=100 base.

(6) Indexes on a December 1977=100 base.

Note: Index applies to a month as a whole, not to any specific date.